

# June Callwood

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*Contemporary Authors Online*, 2007 Updated: May 25, 2007

**Born:** June 02, 1924 in Chatham, Ontario, Canada

**Died:** April 14, 2007

**Nationality:** Canadian

**Occupation:** Writer

## WRITINGS:

- (With Marian Hillard) *A Woman Doctor Looks at Life and Love*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1957.
- *Love, Hate, Fear, and Anger*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1964, revised edition published as *Emotions: What They Are and How They Affect Us*, 1986.
- (With Charles W. Mayo) *Mayo: The Story of My Family and Career*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1968.
- (With Marvin Zuker) *Canadian Woman and the Law*, Copp Clark, 1973.
- (With Barbara Walters) *How to Talk to Practically Anybody about Practically Anything*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1973.
- (With Judianne Densen-Gerber) *We Mainline Dreams*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1974.
- (With Marvin Zuker) *The Law Is Not for Women*, Pitman (Marshfield, MA), 1975.
- (With Otto Preminger) *Otto Preminger Remembers*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1977.
- *The Naughty Nineties: Canada's Illustrated Heritage*, McClelland & Stewart (Toronto, Ontario, Canada), 1978.
- *Portrait of Canada*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1981.
- *Emma: The True Story of Canada's Unlikely Spy*, Stoddart, 1984.
- *Emotions*, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1986.
- *Twelve Weeks in Spring*, Lester & Orpen Dennys, 1986, revised edition, Key Porter, 1995.
- (With Bob White) *Hard Bargains: My Life on the Line*, McClelland & Stewart (Toronto, Ontario, Canada), 1987.
- *Jim: A Life with AIDS*, Lester & Orpen Dennys, 1988.
- *The Sleepwalker*, Lester & Orpen Dennys, 1990.
- *June Callwood's National Treasures*, Stoddart, 1994.
- *No Easy Answer*, Knopf (New York, NY), 1995.
- *Trial without End: A Shocking Story of Women and AIDS*, Knopf Canada (Toronto, Ontario, Canada), 1995.
- *The Man Who Lost Himself: The Terry Evanshen Story*, McClelland & Stewart (Toronto, Ontario, Canada), 2000.

Also author of television and radio scripts. Author of "The Informal . . . ," a column in *Globe and Mail*, 1975-78 and 1983-89. Contributor of about 1,500 articles to magazines, including *Chatelaine*, *Homemaker's*, *Canadian Living*, *Toronto Life*, *Reader's Digest*, and *Maclean's*; and, as reporter, contributor to *Brantford Expositor*, 1941-42, and *Globe and Mail*, 1942-45.

*Brantford Expositor*, Brantford, Ontario, Canada, reporter, 1941-42; *Globe and Mail*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, reporter, 1942-45, columnist, 1975-78, 1983-89; freelance writer, beginning 1946. Panel member of *Court of Opinions*, 1959-67, and host of *Human Sexuality*, 1966, for Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

(CBC) Radio; host of *Generations*, 1966, and *In Touch*, 1975-78, for CBC-TV; host of *Callwood's National Treasures*, 1991-95 and 1997-98, for Vision TV; host of *Caregiving*, for Prime TV, 1998; Gordon Fairweather Lecturer on Human Rights, University of Ottawa, 1984; Ontario Film Development Corp., founding director, 1986; Toronto Arts Awards, founding director, beginning 1984.

North York Public Library, writer-in-residence, 1995-96; patron/advisory board member for more than sixty organizations; judge for more than twenty-three awards; lecturer at various colleges and universities; active in the leadership and administration of more than eighty professional and community organizations, including: Canadian Civil Liberties Association (founding vice president, 1965-88; honorary director, 1988); National Advisory Committee on the Battered Child, member, 1973; Nellie's Hostel for Women, co-founding president, 1974-78, director, 1986-92; Amnesty International--Canada, council member, 1978-87; Jessie's Center for Teenagers, founding president, 1982-83, director, 1983-85, 1986-89, president, 1987-89; Davenport-Perth Neighborhood Center, founding director, 1985-86, member of Family Services Resource Group, beginning 1986; Casey House Hospice, founding president, 1987-88, honorary director, beginning 1989; Casey House Foundation, founding president, 1992-93, honorary director, beginning 1994.

"Woman of the Year," B'nai B'rith, 1969; award of merit, city of Toronto, 1974; member, Order of Canada, 1978; humanitarian award, Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, 1978; Ida Nudel Humanitarian Award, 1983; Ontario Bicentennial Medal, 1983; named to Canadian News Hall of Fame, 1984; Order of the Buffalo Hunt, Manitoba, 1984; award from Family Services Association, 1985; award from Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada, 1985; "Toronto Woman of Distinction," YWCA, 1986; officer, Order of Canada, 1986; Quill Award, Windsor Press Club, 1987; humanitarian award, Ontario Psychological Association, 1987; Lifetime Achievement Award, Toronto Arts Foundation, 1990; public service award, American Orthopsychiatric Association, 1991; Warren Williams Award, American Psychiatric Association, 1991; Hall of Fame, City of Etobicoke, 1992; Humanitarian of the Year, Child Haven International, 1992; commemorative medal, 125th Anniversary of Canada, 1992; Distinguished Canadian Award, University of Regina, 1993; Global Citizen, United Nations Association in Canada, 1995; Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary International, 1997; Pink Toronto Humanitarian Award, 1998; Harry Bolster Memorial Award, USC, 2000; companion, Order of Canada, 2001; Distinguished Contribution Award, Writers' Trust of Canada, 2007. Recipient of honorary diplomas from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, 1990, Argyle Alternative High School, Winnipeg, 1993, Loyalist College, Belleville, 1995, and Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, 2000; and numerous honorary doctorate degrees, including: Doctor of the University, University of Ottawa, 1978; Doctor of Sacred Letters, Trinity College, University of Toronto, 1988; Doctor of Laws, Memorial University, Newfoundland, 1988, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, 1988, University of Prince Edward Island, 1992, University of Western Ontario, London, 1993, and McMaster University, Hamilton, 1994, Law Society of Upper Canada, 1997, and University of Calgary, 1997; Doctor of Literature, Carleton University, Ottawa, 1988; Doctor of Letters, University of Alberta, Edmonton, 1988, University of Guelph, 1989, and University of New Brunswick, 1990; Doctor of Civil Law, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, 1993; and Doctor of Humane Letters, Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax, 1993. Namesakes include: Callwood House, Jessie's teen mothers' residence, Toronto, 1987; Callwood House, second-stage housing, Sydney, Cape Breton, 1993; June Callwood Award for Contribution to Hospice Care, 1995; June Callwood Award for contribution to palliative care, OVATION!, Toronto People with AIDS Foundation, 1995; June Callwood Humanitarian Award, Hauer Jewelers, 1995; Callwood Room, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, 1998; June Callwood Programme in Aboriginal Law, University of Toronto, 2000; Writers' Trust Award for Distinguished Contribution, Writers' Trust of Canada, 2007.

Born June 2, 1924, in Chatham, Ontario, Canada; died of cancer, April 14, 2007; daughter of Harold (Bing) Callwood (a manufacturer) and Gladys Lavoie (an office manager); married Trent Gardiner Frayne (a writer and columnist), May 13, 1944; children: Jill Callwood Frayne, Brant Homer Frayne, Jesse Ann Frayne, Casey Robert Frayne (deceased, April 19, 1982). **Education:** Educated in Canada. **Politics:** "Uncertain." **Religion:** "Uncertain." **Memberships:** Writers Union of Canada (founding member, 1973; chair, 1979-80), PEN Canada (founding member, 1984; secretary, 1985-87; vice president, 1987-88; president, 1989-90), Rights and Freedom Committee, (chair, 1986-87; life member, beginning 1994), Canadians for Choice, Electric Rights Licensing Agency (TERLA; board of directors, 1997-99; honorary director, 1999), Strength in Sisterhood (director, beginning 1995), Campaign against Child Poverty (vice president, beginning 1999), Frosst Health Care Foundations (founding board, beginning 1999), Toronto Health Coalition, Ontario Hospice and Palliative Care Coalition, Law Commission of Canada (advisory committee, 2000-03), Beaver Valley Soaring Club.

## "Sidelights"

In *Emma: The True Story of Canada's Unlikely Spy*, Canadian writer and reformer June Callwood chronicles the life of Emma (Woikin) Sawula, a young Doukhobor woman from Saskatchewan convicted of spying for the Soviet Union and imprisoned in the late 1940s. Callwood's account details the controversial nature of Sawula's conviction, in particular the civil rights infractions that occurred at the time of her arrest and questioning. "More important than the circumstances of Emma's wrongdoing was the method of convicting her," observes William French in the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, "and . . . here Callwood, the noted civil libertarian, is at her best. Emma and . . . 12 [other] 'spies' . . . were scooped up, detained, interrogated and charged under conditions that, as Callwood notes, prevailed before King John signed the Magna Carta." French adds that Emma emerges in the book as "one of those tragic characters unwittingly caught up in the whirlpool of history, a victim perhaps of her naivete."

*Twelve Weeks in Spring* is the true story of Margaret Frazer, a terminally ill, retired school teacher whose wish to die at home was honored by friends and acquaintances who--under Callwood's direction--banded together to care for her. The book is both a detailed account of the group's coordinated response to Frazer's needs and, as Mary Lassance Parthun comments in the *Globe and Mail*, "a memorial to the dead Margaret Frazer and a tribute to friendship and the heights to which people can rise in a crisis." More importantly though, the book is a statement of the group's commitment "to help Frazer . . . retain control over her life and death, in spite of the encroachments of society's definition of dying as a medical problem rather than an individual crisis or rite of passage." Parthun further states: "[Callwood] has been on the cutting edge of many attempts to adapt services to current needs. It is not surprising, then, that she has turned her energies to this particular problem of modern society--the sterile institutional death among strangers."

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## Further Readings

### FURTHER READINGS ABOUT THE AUTHOR: PERIODICALS

- *Globe and Mail*, October 13, 1984; July 5, 1986; November 1, 1986; October 24, 1987.

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